



EPA's Exterior Lead-Based Paint Stabilization Program

Omaha Lead Superfund Site

Omaha, Nebraska

Quick Facts

Spring 2010

What is EPA's exterior lead-based paint stabilization program all about?

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the City of Omaha Lead Hazard Control Program (LHCP) have partnered to perform stabilization of loose, flaking lead-based paint at properties in eastern Omaha where a soil cleanup has been, or will be, performed. Stabilization helps prevent loose, flaking lead-based paint on the outside of homes from falling to the ground and raising lead concentrations to unsafe levels in the soil. Children can inadvertently swallow paint chips or lead-contaminated soil causing lead-poisoning, which can result in irreversible adverse health effects. The purpose of the lead-based paint stabilization program is to assure that soil lead levels remain protective following the soil cleanup.

Which homes are eligible for lead-based paint stabilization?

An exterior paint assessment must be performed to determine which properties are eligible for lead-based paint stabilization. Eligibility is based on the extent of any loose, flaking lead-based paint on exterior surfaces of houses, garages, or other structures on the property. Exterior paint assessments and stabilization will only be offered at properties which have previously qualified for soil cleanup based on results of soil lead testing. The paint assessment determines the lead content and condition of each type of paint on exterior surfaces on all structures. The paint assessment is performed entirely outdoors using a hand-held instrument which does not harm painted surfaces. If an excessive amount of loose, flaking lead-based paint is found on exterior surfaces of any structure, stabilization of painted surfaces will be offered to property owners for all structures on the property where lead-based paint is present.

What work will be performed?

Stabilization of exterior surfaces involves surface preparation, priming, and repainting of previously painted surfaces using lead-safe work practices. Painting contractors will attempt to match existing colors, unless other arrangements are made prior to beginning work that do not increase cost or complexity. Lead-safe work practices include covering the ground with sheeting, controlling generation of dust through wet scraping and other techniques, collection and disposal of paint chips removed during surface preparation, and performing a thorough cleanup of work areas upon completion. Stabilization offered by EPA and LHCP **does not** include weatherization (caulking) or repair of deteriorated siding, trim boards, soffits, or other house features. Moving components of windows and doors are not included, although window and door trim will be stabilized.

Who will perform the work?

Exterior paint assessments and lead-based paint stabilization will be performed at eligible properties by qualified contractors employed by the EPA and/or the City of Omaha LHCP. In some instances, EPA and/or LHCP employees may be directly involved in performance of work. All workers will be trained in lead-safe practices and must obtain sign-off by EPA or LHCP officials before closing out work at each property. Both the exterior paint assessment and any lead-based paint stabilization that is offered are strictly voluntary and will be performed at no cost to homeowners or residents. Individuals or companies interested in employment or business opportunities associated with these programs should contact EPA or the City of Omaha LHCP at the numbers below.

**Provided by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – Region 7
and the City of Omaha Lead Hazard Control Program (LHCP)**

Quick Facts About EPA's Exterior Lead-Based Paint Stabilization Program (cont.)

When will the work will be performed?

The lead-based paint stabilization program will be ongoing over the next several years. Interested owners must grant access for the paint assessment by completing and signing an access agreement. Access agreements are available by mail or by calling any of the contacts listed below. An exterior paint assessment will be scheduled upon receipt of a completed, signed access agreement. Paint assessments will be performed during the 2010 construction season, or as received in subsequent years. Lead-based paint stabilization will be scheduled based on the results of the paint assessment. Work will be offered first at homes where children under age seven reside and lead-based paint problems are most severe. Owners of eligible properties will be directly contacted by the contractor to arrange for the work to proceed.

What if my house does not qualify for the paint stabilization program?

EPA's legal authority to address exterior lead-based paint is limited. Exterior paint assessments and lead-based paint stabilization are only available at properties where a soil cleanup has been, or will be performed. Only a portion of the homes that are evaluated by EPA will qualify for paint stabilization work under this program. If you have problems or concerns regarding lead-based paint or other lead exposure hazards that can not be addressed by EPA, you may contact the city of Omaha LHCP at the number listed below for information about other programs that may be able to provide assistance. You may contact EPA at any of the numbers below to obtain results of any soil or paint testing, or to discuss other environmental issues. EPA and LHCP can also provide contact information for other lead hazard control programs not listed below.

Contact Information

EPA has established two Public Information Centers located in north and south Omaha, which can provide general information about the Omaha Lead Site and specific information about your individual property. A toll-free number is available to contact EPA directly at the regional office in Kansas City, Kansas.

NORTH EPA PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER
3040 Lake Street
Omaha, NE 68111
(402) 991-9583
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

SOUTH EPA PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER
4909 South 25th Street
Omaha, NE 68107
(402) 731-3045 (en Ingles y Español)
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

CITY OF OMAHA LHCP
Marian Carling
Lead Hazard Control Program
Omaha City Hall, 1819 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131
(402) 444-5217
En español – (402) 444-5167

EPA Regional Office
901 North Fifth Street
Kansas City, KS 66101
Toll Free: 1-800-223-0425

Bob Feild
EPA Project Coordinator
(913) 551-7697
feild.robert@epa.gov

Debbie Kring
EPA Community Involvement Coordinator
(913) 551-7725
kring.debbie@epa.gov

All work that is agreed upon will be free to the homeowner (and residents) and is strictly voluntary.